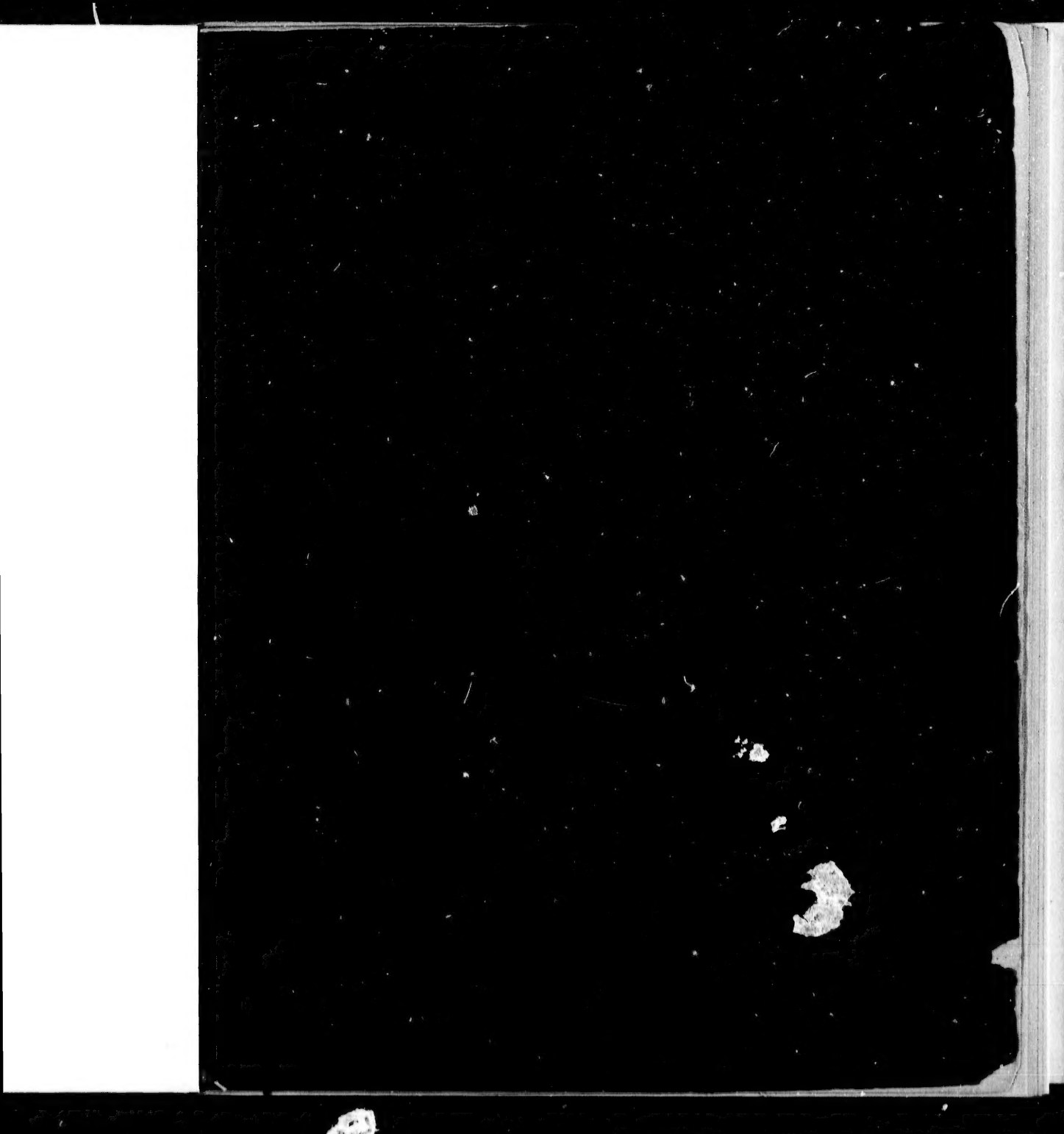
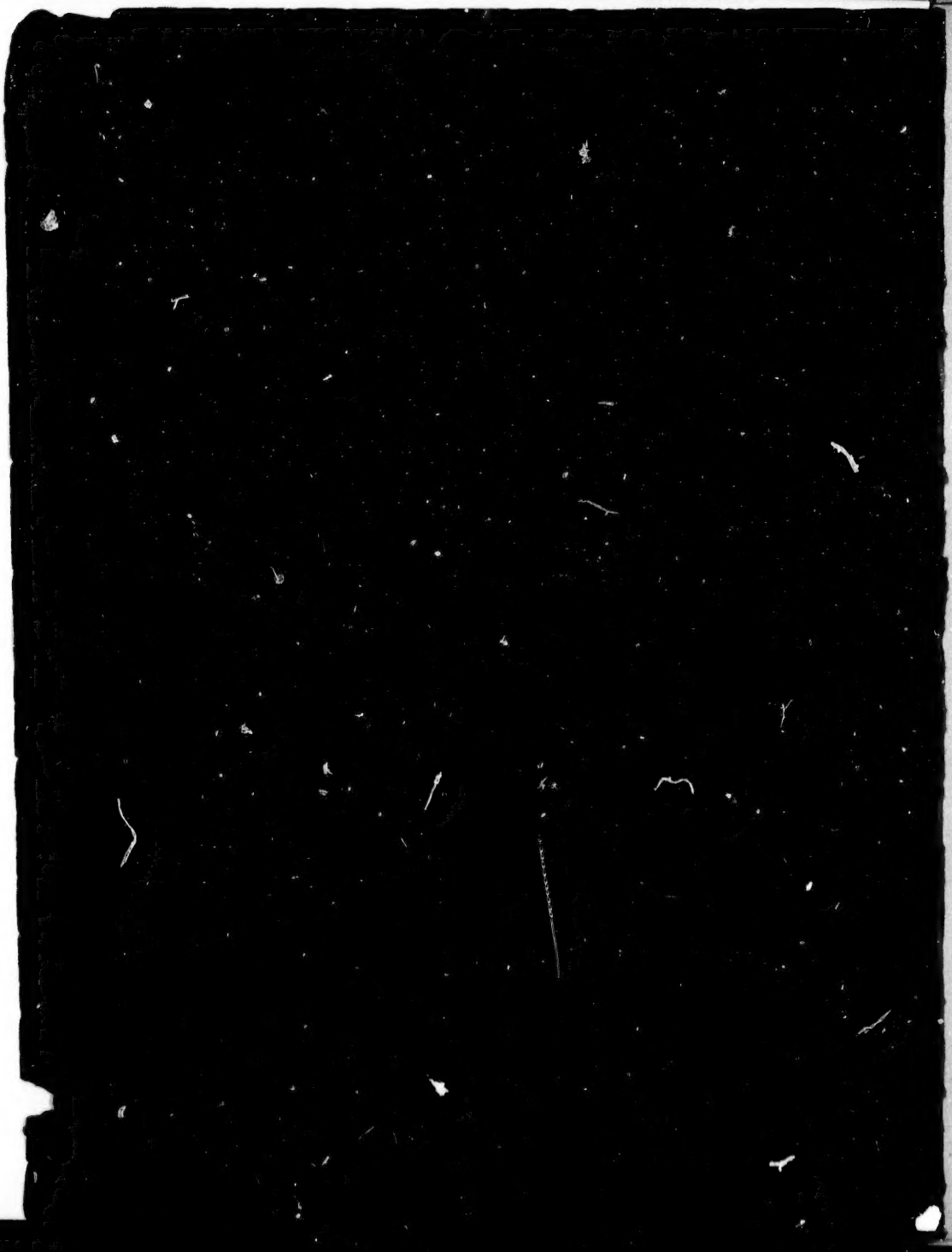








Okanagan Falls

THERE are few locations naturally better adapted for the growth of a large city than that which has just been selected at the foot of Dog Lake in the Osooyos District, in British Columbia. A number of unusually favorable conditions dictated its choice, several of the more important of which are referred to in what follows. The great plateau country of which Okanagan Falls is the natural centre, contains a variety of resources, any one of them being sufficient to create extensive industries and maintain a large population.

British Columbia is acknowledged to be the richest Province in the Dominion of Canada, towards which the hopes of all its people have for some years past been turned. No part of British Columbia is richer than that to which the attention of the reader is now directed. In fruit growing, mining, stock raising and the divers industries growing out of these, it has possibilities equal, if not superior, to those of any district in the province, and certainly no other district combines so many in so great a degree or extent. While in addition to the economic wealth are the inestimable subsidiary advantages of a charming and healthful climate, a picturesque and pastoral landscape, facilities for sport and the prospect of unrivalled communication by land and water. A glance at the map demonstrates momentarily the claims which its position entitles it to present for consideration.

CLIMATE.

The distinguishable feature of British Columbia is the mild and beautiful climate which has lent to its material resources possibilities which otherwise could not be dreamed of. The southern portion of Yale is particularly blessed in this respect and possesses one of the most favored climates on the continent. It lacks the humidity of the Coast, though retaining its mildness, while there is a conspicuous absence of the extremes characteristic of the country to the east of the Rockies. The winters, during which snow seldom falls to the depth of more than *several* inches, lasts from six to eight weeks, while there is little rain or disagreeable weather during the remainder of the year. The atmosphere is remarkably pure and clear, and a resort for invalids, more particularly those troubled with weak lungs, debilitated or nervously prostrated, it must in time

become noted. The healthfulness of the district is remarkable, and speaking generally the climate is unexcelled on the continent of America or anywhere else for that matter.

MINING.

The claims of several important districts of British Columbia to be regarded as the richest in mines are, of course, well known. It is gratifying and significant as well as that each of the great mineralized areas of Yale, Kootenay and Cariboo has so many and such enthusiastic claimants for first position, and in the present stage of development, which may be classified in mining annals as the stage of discovery, it is difficult and unsafe to decide. To say that the country tributary to Okanagan Falls is the richest mineral district in British Columbia would be a pretentious claim, but might be to err even on the side of under-estimation, because new discoveries are being made continually, and we are only beginning to realize faintly of what the country is capable. The mineral finds are not only remarkable for the richness of the ores, but for their immense body and the areas over which they extend. While for many years past the existence here of placer and quartz mines has been well-known, it is only in the past two or three years, and particularly during the present season, that their immense value and extent began to be understood and appreciated.

This district includes some of the first discoveries in gold in the Province, being those made in Similkameen, Rock Creek and Okanagan. The most notable finds were at Rock Creek, Granite Creek, Tulameen, Cherry Creek and Mission Creek, where coarse gold of an evidently local character existed. Abundance of fine or flour gold has been extracted from the river bars, flats and low benches. Something like one million dollars of placer gold has been obtained in the region referred to.

It is, however, in vein or quartz mining that the district is abundantly rich. Gold predominates, but silver, lead, copper, coal and platinum occur in extensive deposits. The Government report of 1889 speaking of this region says it "yields to no other portion of the Province in regard to the riches and number of its mineral bearing lodes. Ledges abound on the Similkameen and Tulameen rivers, and on Granite Creek, where mining operations have brought them to view. They are visible on the rock bluffs on the breast of the streams mentioned, and they crop out in localities on the mountain sides without

attracting the attention of the placer miner, who knows he cannot afford the time and money required to make them valuable, hence the apathy displayed toward a branch of mining destined in the near future to support a large and prosperous population."

The Government report of 1888 regarding this section, concludes: "The country is almost untrodden and has vast mineral resources, both in quartz and gravel that only await time to discover, and pluck and energy to develop."

The principal mining camps tributary to Okanagan Falls in the Okanagan and Similkameen divisions of the district are: Fairview, Boundary Creek, Rock Creek, Cherry Creek and Granite Creek. There are a number of others more or less known.

During the present year some remarkable discoveries have been made, which have brought Fairview and Boundary Creek, more especially, into prominence. The properties at Fairview are heavily gold bearing and the development already taken place has demonstrated its possibilities as one of the richest gold camps in America. At Boundary Creek, D. C. Corbin, president of the Spokane and Northern Railway, and other capitalists, have secured control of over a dozen of the principal claims, and are bringing in mining machinery for their development.

All these rich claims, with such an extent and variety of ores, and facilities for transportation supplied, must result in the establishment of a great mining industry, including reduction works and all the rest of it.

GRAZING.

All this country south to the boundary, and east and west for long distances, is peculiarly a pastoral one, including several million acres of pasture land. Okanagan and Similkameen are districts from which the major supply of the beef for the Coast cities is already drawn. With rich, nutritious bunch grass, admittedly the finest beef producer of all grazing fodder, and innumerable lakes and mountain streams of the purest water, the facilities for stock raising and dairying are unrivalled, and it is no great feat of prophecy to predict that in the near future it will supply not only the live stock for the butcher, but dressed meats for export, cheese, butter and condensed milk in large quantities.

FRUIT GROWING.

From Okanagan Falls to the boundary there are between 50,000 and 100,000 acres of valley land admirably adapted for fruit culture, which area throughout the whole district could be indefinitely extended by means of irrigation. It is well known to those familiar with the fruit capabilities of British Columbia that it is only in the warm sheltered valleys of the interior that such fruits as peaches, grapes, melons, tomatoes, almonds, nectarines and apricots can be successfully grown and matured year in and year out. The district is still in its infancy in respect to horticulture, but sufficient has been demonstrated upon which to base the most sanguine anticipation. There is territory here to supply, in those sun-loving and semi-tropical fruits, the wants of all British Columbia with ample to export and for canning and preserving purposes. In addition to these the finest apples, pears, plums and all small fruits can be grown, as well as hops and vegetables of all kinds, in all of which it can rival the far-famed delta lands of the Fraser Valley. The exhibits from this interior country this year, collected for the World's fair at Chicago, were by all odds the largest and finest sent from any part of the Province, a statement which can be easily verified by comparison of the products themselves. In brief, it is a district peculiarly and wonderfully adapted for horticulture.

COMMUNICATION AND LINES OF TRANSPORTATION.

The study of lines of transportation and the natural avenues of trade is always an interesting one and peculiarly so in this instance. From and to the north the only inlet and outlet are afforded by the Okanagan Lake, Okanagan River and Dog Lake, on which latter Okanagan Falls are situated. The Shuswap & Okanagan Railway, now in the hands of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, has its terminus at the head of Okanagan Lake. New and commodious steamers will be put on next spring to connect the Shuswap & Okanagan Railway with Okanagan Falls, which is the only feasible route of travel. Therefore, Okanagan Falls becomes the terminus, and the only possible terminus, from the north, of the Canadian Pacific Railway and Okanagan steamboat lines.

Again, as is familiar to every reader of the press, the Canadian Pacific Railway Company is heading by way of Crow's Nest Pass and Hope for the

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Coast, which route, when completed, will afford a more direct and much less expensive line. It has been ascertained, after most careful exploration and survey, that there is only one feasible route south of the present line, and that will connect at Okanagan Falls, this being one of the reasons for the selection of that point as the site for a city, which will naturally become the distributing centre for a very extensive country, not only north, but south of the boundary line, a country which Dr. Dawson, in his "Mineral Resources of British Columbia," describes as possessing great and varied resources.

An application will be made next session of the Legislature for a charter to build a railway from Okanagan Falls southward to the boundary, connecting with the Great Northern Railway at that point. It has already been announced that D. C. Corbin, having become largely interested in the rich mineral properties at Boundary Creek, the Spokane and Northern, of which he is President, will be built in and connect with the Canadian Pacific Railway system.

A CENTRAL LOCATION.

Besides the proposed lines of transportation referred to in the foregoing, there will be several leading lines of wagon roads running easterly and westerly, thus giving Okanagan Falls a most unique and CENTRALLY LOCATED position, to which no other town in the interior can hope to aspire. Easy access will be afforded to all the mining camps by wagon roads, railroads, tramways and waterways. Not only that, but direct railway communication will be established with Eastern Canada, with the Coast and with the transcontinental systems south of the line, which, for purposes of export and import of goods without transshipment and loss of time, is a distinguishing advantage and cannot be overestimated.

FACILITIES FOR MANUFACTURING ENTERPRISES.

Nature has been liberally in its endowments to Okanagan Falls in more respects than one. The Falls, which have assisted in giving a name to this new city, and which adjoin the townsite, supply enormous water power, estimated at between 50,000 and 100,000 horse-power, sufficient to generate electricity for any number of industrial enterprises, at a minimum of cost. A company is now being formed to furnish electrical power for all the requirements of the mines smelters, reduction works, saw mills and any other industries which the country

is adapted to support. This is a factor, the importance of which no words are necessary to emphasize.

AS A WHOLESALE CENTRE.

As a sequence of all that has been said regarding the natural advantages and the various traffic outlets in all directions, Okanagan Falls becomes the wholesale centre and supply point for the whole of the lower Okanagan and the famous Kettle River stock country, or, in fact, what is embraced in the immense range of territory between the Columbia River and Hope.

SPORT—BIG GAME.

One of the greatest attractions any country can afford is the facilities for obtaining good sport. To use a current vulgarism, this country is right "in it." It is essentially a country of big game. There is nothing now to equal it on the American continent. A few hours' ride will carry the sportsman to where bear, big-horned sheep and mountain goat abound. The noble cariboo is also to be found, while deer of the commoner variety are too plentiful for their pursuit to afford sport.

FEATHERED GAME.

More modest and less exciting recreation can be obtained right at your doors, by the best of shooting for ducks, geese and grouse.

FISHING.

The trolling on Dog Lake and fly fishing in the Okanagan River will satisfy the most ardent disciple of Izaak Walton. Fishing in these waters is simply unsurpassed. Salmon, salmon and mountain trout of great size and beauty abound.

BOATING AND BATHING.

Situated as the town is on the shores of the beautiful Dog Lake, the facilities for enjoying both boating and bathing are everything that could be desired.

HOTEL ACCOMMODATION.

Plans have been drawn for the erection next spring of a first class modern hotel, not to be surpassed for comfort or equipment in British Columbia. It will be of handsome design, supplied with hot and cold water, electric bells, etc., and provided with all kinds of game, fish and fruit in season.

RIDING AND DRIVING.

Another of the many attractions of this region is the opportunity for the healthful exercise of riding and driving, particularly the former. In this respect it affords inducements superior to any other district in the Province, on account of the splendid roads and the cheapness of horses and their keep. Here you can ride at will for miles in any direction under the most favorable conditions.

A TOURIST AND HEALTH RESORT.

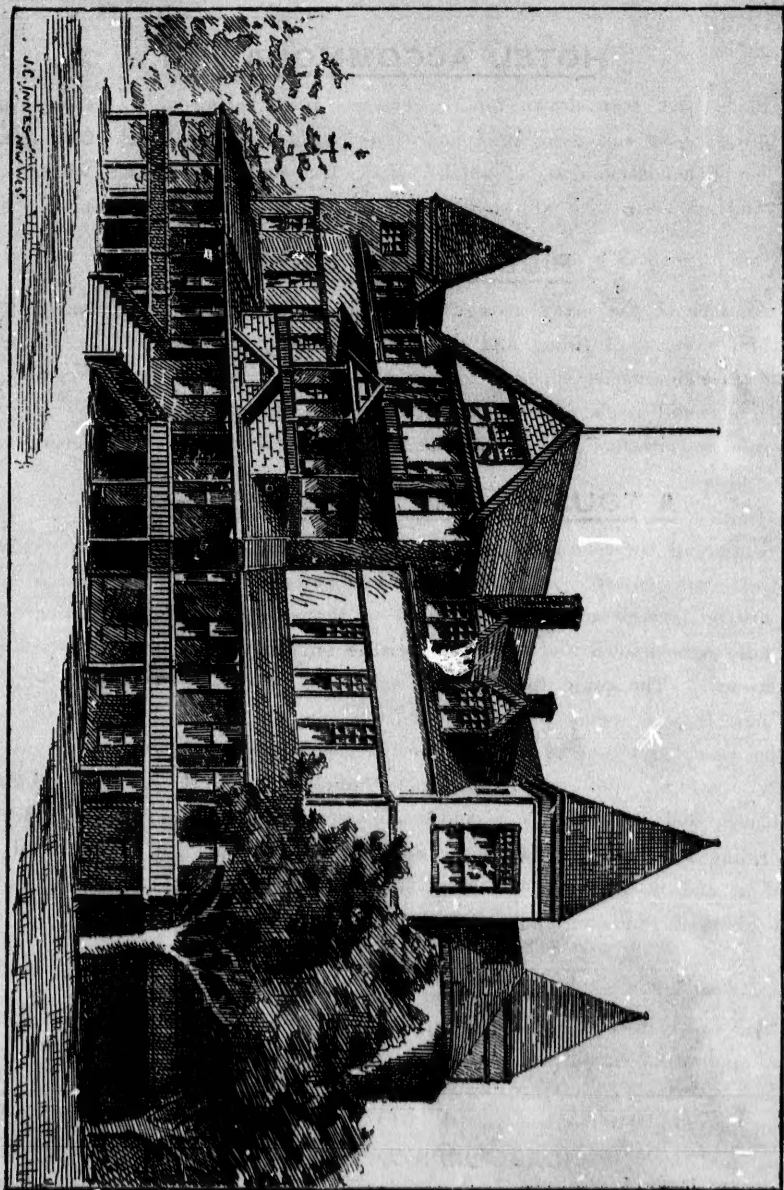
Under all these circumstances it is hard to imagine a place more suited for what is now always one of the great quests of social life, viz: a holiday, pleasure or invalid resort. It combines so many features of attraction that it has but to be known and visited to become immediately popular and world-widely appreciated. The route to and from any point of the globe is most interesting and new from a scenic point of view; the climate is delightful in all seasons of the year; the country as a whole is beautifully picturesque, and in parts highly pastoral and park-like in appearance; it is a perfect paradise for sportsmen, and as such has a continental reputation; it has boating and fishing and riding such as but few places can offer; it is new and unhackneyed; it is healthful and invigorating. In short there is everything to recommend the city as a place of residence and for profitable investment.

TO WHOM TO APPLY.

For fuller information and all particulars regarding the City of Okanagan Falls, application should be made to the general agent,

A. HOLMAN,

HEAD OFFICE, 601 HASTINGS STREET,
VANCOUVER, B.C.



PROPOSED HOTEL AT OKANAGAN FALLS, B. C.

